Covernors Island, Castle Williams
Building #501
Governors Island
New York Harbor
New York City
New York County
New York

HABS No. NY-5715-2

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

GOVERNORS ISLAND, Castle Williams HABS No NY-5715-2
BUILDING #501

Location: West of the intersection of Hay and Andes Road, Governors Island, New York Harbor, New York, New York.

Present Owner and Occupant: United States Coast Guard

Present Use: Storage and shops

Significance: Castle Williams, a three-tiered, circular, casemated fortification built between 1807 and 1810/11 served as a prototype for a new era of coastal fortification. Its massive masonry walls and design by American military engineer, Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Williams, were typical of fortifications erected in the years prior to the War of 1812 in what became known as the Second American System of fortifications. Williams was the Army's Chief Engineer and first superintendent of the Military Academy at West Point. At the time it was constructed, the Castle, which had the capability of mounting slightly over 100 guns, was one of the largest works in the defense system that effectively protected New York City and its harbor during the War of 1812. Today, it remains as one of the country's best preserved fortifications of its type.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of Erection: Construction of Castle Williams began in 1807 (Williams reports to the Secretary of War, November 1808). During 1809, the structure was completed to the second floor level and was ready to receive its first tier of guns. (Stokes, vol. 5, pp. 1500 and 1515). Construction was completed by late 1810 or shortly afterwards, since in December the structure was named Castle Williams under a salute of 17 guns. At the same time, Williams gave a dinner commemorating the event (Ibid, p 1526).

2. Architect: The engineer responsible for the design of Castle Williams was Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Williams. At the time, he was in charge of the erection of defense works in New York Harbor. Williams was the Army's Chief Engineer and first superintendent of the Military Academy at West Point. He had gained a solid theoretical knowledge of fortifications while living in France from 1776 to 1785 under the auspices of his great uncle, Benjamin Franklin (Dictionary of American Biography, vol. 20, pp. 280-282).

3. Original and subsequent owners: The United States Army was the original owner. Ownership was transferred to the United States Coast Guard in 1966.

4. Builder: Local builders Hilliard and Louder were responsible for the construction of Castle Williams (Stokes, vol. 5, p. 1491). The two were also builders for Fort Jay being erected at the same time as the Castle.

5. Original Plans and Construction: By November 1808, the walls of the Castle were completed nearly to the second floor level. In a draft report written to the Secretary of War at that time Williams described construction work and plans for completion of the Castle. A copy of the report which is in the Jonathan Williams manuscript collection in the Lilly Library at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, is attached. A cross-section of the Castle done in 1813 as part of a larger cross-section of the Island (Plates 1 and 2) is the earliest known drawing documenting the appearance of the Castle which had been completed two years earlier. The drawing is in the Cartographic and Architectural Branch of the National Archives, Record Group 77, Fortifications File, Fort Columbus, Drawer 36, sheet 20. A set of three drawings (Plates 3-5) dated 1839 and 1840 illustrates the floor plans and casemates. These are also in the Cartographic and Architectural Branch of the National Archives, Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheets 16, 17 and 18.

6. Alterations and additions: The Castle appears to have undergone no change with the exception of repairs until the latter half of the 19th century. Although a proposal was made in 1841 to heighten and thicken the parapet wall, (Record Group 77, Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, Sheet 24) this does not appear to have been done until after 1859 when a second proposal for the work was made (Ibid, Drawer 37, sheet 48). The parapet wall was extended outward and heightened with courses of rough faced granite ashlar. The exact date of this alteration was not documented. A photograph (Plate 6) taken sometime between 1895 and 1904 reveals that the change had been made by the early years of the 20th century.

   At some point between the time this photograph was taken and 1916, a second change altered the appearance of the structure Masonry magazines at each end of the circular portion of the Castle were demolished. The stones were used to create a two-story structure in the southeast corner of the Castle using the existing walls in that area as the exterior first story walls. Windows and a door were cut in the existing first story wall. A drawing (see photograph NY-5715-28 following Castle

Williams data Bibliography) dated April 1916 on file in the Coast Guard Facilities Engineering Division on Governors Island refers to the structure as a "new addition." At the time, the rooms above the sallyport were used as a library and recreation room.

During the 1930s, the Works Progress Administration undertook various projects on the Island, and alterations to Castle Williams were among these projects. A new steel and concrete framing system replaced the original heavy timber framing system within the Castle casemates. Also a new concrete balcony was constructed around one of the stair towers as a connection with adjacent cells. The balcony is shown on Plate 7 a photograph ca. 1930 on file in the Coast Guard Special Services Office on Governors Island.

The interior face of the Castle underwent further change in 1947. The wooden balconies which provided access to cells on the second and third tiers were removed and replaced by an enclosed cantilevered steel and concrete passage with brick spandrels and continuous semi-security steel sash glazed with polished wire glass. A three-story brick structure with the same semi-security sash windows was constructed to house a stairway on the northwest wall. A new brick chimney was built adjacent to the new stair structure. On the interior, wooden enclosures at the casemate arches were replaced by grille fronts with sliding grille doors. New 8" brick partitions filled the arched openings between cells and new concrete floors were laid. These alterations are recorded in plans on file in the Facilities Engineering Division (see photographs NY-5715-2-24 to NY-5715-2-27 following the Bibliography).

The brick stairtowers on the north and south walls have undergone several changes since the Castle was constructed in the first decade of the 19th century. Figure 1 shows domical roofs on the towers in 1813. Platee 7 taken the in 1930s or 1940s shows a polygonal fourth story with flat roof. The date of the alteration was not documented. At some point afterward, the fourth story was altered becoming circular once again. By 1967, the upper portion of the fourth floors were badly deteriorated, and the roofs were in danger of blowing off (Facilities Engineering vertical files). The brickwork was finally replaced in 1974.

B. Historical Context:

The threat of war brought on by renewed British interference with American shipping in the first decade of the 19th century revived an interest in coastal fortifications and compelled the Federal

government to initiate a program for what came to be known as the Second System of American fortifications. Under this system, Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Williams, the Army's Chief Engineer and first superintendent of the United States Military Academy, was placed in charge of the fortification of New York Harbor. In an 1805 report to the Secretary of War Henry Dearborn, Williams stated that "there does not appear to be any force that could prevent a ship of war from attacking the city..." (Pitkin, p. 2). He was soon pursuing a vigorous campaign of construction at sites around the inner harbor to rectify this situation. As a result, a highly effective harbor defense system protected the city from naval invasion during the War of 1812.

Castle Williams, begun in 1807, served as a prototype for a new era of American coastal fortifications. Two techniques, masonry construction and more importantly the casemated gun emplacement, set the structure apart from earlier American seacoast fortifications. By 1810-11 when it was completed, Castle Williams' design and the subsequent emplacement of 80 guns, which was later increased to 102, made this significant fortification the most formidable American seacoast defense work yet constructed (Robinson, p. 14).

The casemate concept, out of use in Europe for about two hundred years primarily because of technological problems, was reintroduced on the Continent in the 1780s by the French engineer Montalembert who advocated the use of forts circulaires or multiple circular casemated tiers. These, he stressed, were superior to traditional forts having angular traces, since they required less wall surface and fewer troops for defense (Ibid, pp. 73-74). Williams lived in France from 1776 to 1785 under the auspices of his great uncle Benjamin Franklin and gained a solid theoretical knowledge of fortifications in that country. He was obviously influenced by the work of Montalembert and in particular the Frenchman's use of casemates arranged in circular tiers. In addition to Castle Williams, the American engineer used this concept for his design of the smaller single-tiered Castle Gansevoort (1808) and Castle Clinton (1808), both part of the New York Harbor fortification system. The latter, located on the southwest tip of Manhattan to the north of Castle Williams, was to have been a twin and companion fortification to Castle Williams. Castle Clinton was not completed beyond the first tier, since a hesitant Secretary of War balked at the huge sum of money required for the construction of a second large, circular, casemated fort.

Because of the advantages inherent in its design, the new type of fortification added significantly to the effectiveness of the New York Harbor defense system. Casemate emplacement allowed heavy guns to be fired within closed spaces, thus making possible the arrangement of armament in multiple tiers rather than simply placing cannon en barbette on the top of exposed parapet walls. As a result,

greater protection was afforded the guns and gunners. It also increased considerably the volume of fire attainable so that one or two forts could provide a greater concentration of firepower over a channel (Lewis, p. 31). Williams intended for Castle Williams and Castle Clinton to work together in creating crossfire against a naval invasion.

The Castle's location on the northwest point of the Island, allowing it to command the channel from the entrance of the North River southwestward to the Narrows, was enhanced by considerable firepower. The first and second tiers had 26 embrasures each. The third, although intended as quarters for the troops, was capable of mounting an additional 26 guns, while more cannon could be placed en barbette on the parapet. The total was slightly over 100 cannon. The Castle was one of the largest in terms of armament among the harbor defense works.

Other design features increased the Castle's effectiveness. The apertures of the casemated embrasures through which the guns were fired were so small that cannon shot could not pass between the muzzle of the gun and the side of the embrasure. The gun carriages were constructed in such a way to allow an angle of 54° for the range of fire. At that angle, the lines of fire would cross each other at less than 20' from the exterior of the wall, making an enemy's approach to the Castle extremely difficult (Williams, November 1808, p. 10).

By the beginning of the War of 1812, the strength of Castle Williams was augmented by two additional defense works on the Island. Fort Columbus (HABS No. NY-5715-1), a large four bastioned masonry fortification capable of mounting over 100 guns was located in the center of the Island on the highest point. From this position, the fort commanded the surrounding area. South or Half-Moon Battery, a smaller masonry work with 13 guns mounted en barbette, protected the entrance to Buttermilk Channel, a narrow waterway to the east of Governors Island. The strength of the fortifications on Governors Island and elsewhere in the harbor effectively protected the city and harbor from attack during the War 1812.

The decades of peace following the War of 1812 were characterized by change in the Island's function. Although appropriations were made for repairs to the Island's fortifications and weaponry was updated periodically, the role of the Island as a major element in the defense system for New York Harbor diminished by the end of the 19th century. Despite unfavorable conditions of dampness within the Castle, it was used increasingly as quarters for troops on the Island. In the early years of the Civil War, the structure became a prison for captured Confederate soldiers. On March 12, 1862, General

Joseph Totten of the Army Engineer Department informed Secretary of War E. M. Stanton that Castle Williams was nearly ready to receive political prisoners. As many as 150 could be safely accommodated, but during the war, as many as 1,000 were confined within the Castle walls.

In the decades following the Civil War the Castle continued to be used as a prison. In addition until 1878 when the principal depot of the general recruiting service was transferred from Governors Island, the Castle served an important function as quarters for recruits. A report made by the Surgeon General's Office in 1868 indicates that the upper tier was used as quarters for recruits and transient troops as well as for the confinement of prisoners. The lower two tiers still contained guns. In 1875, of the 13 casemates on the third tier, five were occupied by prisoners and their guard. The remaining eight held 16 bunks each as quarters for recruits. A portion of the lower tier was occasionally used as a mess hall. Although retaining guns, the second tier frequently accommodated large numbers of men whose bedding was spread on the floor around the gun carriages. (Circular #8, 1875, p. 16). Three years later, the general recruiting service was transferred to Fort Slocum, and the Castle was increasingly utilized as a military prison. Pursuant to General Orders No. 55 Adjutant General's Office of 1895, the Island was designated one of ten Army posts for the confinement of military prisoners. Two years later the third tier quartered an average of 80 prisoners. Immediately below were the guardroom, washroom, kitchen and dining room (New York Times, April 4, 1897). In August 1921, Castle Williams became the Eastern Branch of the United States Disciplinary Barracks and remained a military prison until the Army vacated the Island in 1966.

Shortly after transfer of the Island to the Coast Guard, the Castle was converted to a new use. Although solitary confinement cells, metal grille prison doors and security windows remained in place, the Castle served as meeting rooms for youth organizations, including the Boy Scouts, and as a day care facility. It presently serves as storage space, workshops and offices.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: The Castle was the first masonry, circular, multitiered, casemated defense work constructed in the country. Its massive Newark red sandstone walls pierced by gun embrasures and granite parapet form a formidable aspect along the Island's shore. The embrasures covered by metal bars and the proliferation of security sash along the interior courtyard reveal the structures' past use as a military prison.

2. Condition of fabric: The structure is in fair condition with considerable spalling evident on the exterior walls. Much of the interior space is used for storage and lack of proper maintenance in these areas has resulted in deterioration of walls.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The three-tiered segment of the structure encompasses 5/6 of a circle with a diameter of 210'. The remainder is enclosed by a rectangular two-story structure. The entire structure encircles an open courtyard nearly 125' in diameter.

2. Foundations: Foundations are stone with inverted arches two bricks deep below each of the casemate openings.

3. Walls: On the circular segment, exterior and interior walls facing the courtyard are dressed red sandstone ashlar laid in Flemish bond. The prominent rounded cordon is sandstone, and the exterior parapet wall is rough-faced, coursed granite ashlar. Interior parapet walls are coursed red sandstone except at the points where larger guns once stood. These walls are of coursed granite ashlar. The exterior sandstone walls have weathered unevenly and are deteriorating with spalling of stone apparent throughout. Walls of the second and third tier walkways facing the interior courtyard are reinforced concrete. The three-story stairway enclosure and the first floor below the walkway on the west wall is red brick laid in Flemish bond. The north and south stairtowers are also red brick laid in Flemish bond. Both have belt courses, three courses wide, at each floor level. Brickwork at the fourth story window level has been replaced with new brick.

4. Structural system, framing: Walls are massive, masonry load bearing approximately 8' 6" wide at the exterior wall on the first tier diminishing to about 7' 6" on the third tier. Walls facing the courtyard are approximately 6' on the first tier and decreasing to 5'3" on the third tier. Crosswalls are masonry load bearing 6' 8" toward the exterior and 5' 7" on the courtyard side. Roof framing is reinforced concrete with steel beams.

5. Porches, stoops, balconies: A straight-run metal stairway with metal pipe railing rises along the south wall of the two story segment to a landing at the second story level. The stairway and landing are sheltered by a corrugated metal roof supported by metal poles.

6. Chimneys: A red brick chimney laid is Flemish bond is situated to the north of the stair enclosure on the west wall.

7. Openings:

   a. Doorways and doors: The east sallyport features an arched entrance with pronounced stone voissoirs and surround. The keystone bears the inscription Castle Williams with a curvilinear design below. To the south at the spring point, the words Commenced 1807 are carved into a stone block. The words Completed 1811 are carved on a block to the north of the door. The word stockade is painted on a panel above the door. The double doors opening onto the interior are of 5" thick wooden vertical boards painted black. Both are attached by decorative strap hinges painted white.

      The only other doorway in the exterior walls of the structure is located on the south wall of the rectangular segment. This metal flush door with a brick surround appears to have replaced a larger door. First floor doors facing the interior courtyard are typically metal grille prison doors. The stairtower doors and other doors opening onto the courtyard are flush metal.

   b. Windows: Windows on the circular segment of the structure are the former gun embrasures. Those on the first tier are the largest and diminish in size with each tier. First and second tier embrasures have brick slip sills while those on the third tier are sandstone. Each has a sandstone jack arch. The openings typically have metal grille coverings on the exterior. The rectangular segment of the Castle has larger rectangular window openings with security sash, metal grille coverings, stone lintels and sills. Facing the interior courtyard, windows on the reinforced concrete walkway and west stair enclosure are multipaned steel and glazed metal glass security sash. Stairtower windows are two-over-two-light nonopening sash. Remaining windows are typically double hung sash with metal grille on the exterior.

8. Roof:

   a. Shape, covering: The flat roof has a tar and gravel covering and serves also as the parapet walkway. Roofs on the north and south stair towers are pyramidal with a metal covering.

b. Dormers, cupolas, towers: A small, circular, sandstone bartizan with slit openings is situated on the southeast corner of the second story of the rectangular segment.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The first tier of the circular segment consists of 13 casemates interconnected by broad arched openings between each casemate. A row of rooms constructed at a later date lines the original wall facing the courtyard from the south side of the brick and glass stairwell on the west wall to the southeastern edge of the circular section. The area south of the sallyport contains a single room and two bathrooms on the north.

The second tier, like the first, originally consisted of thirteen interconnected casemates. During the structure's use as a prison, the arched openings between the casemates were closed by brick partition walls. Only the opening between the fifth and sixth casemates north of the sallyport remains open. A doorway has been cut through the partition wall between the fourth and fifth casemates. The casemates open onto a continuous walkway attached to the wall facing the courtyard. The southeastern casemate is connected to the rectangular segment of the structure by a narrow passageway in its eastern wall which opens onto a room the depth of this segment. A door in the eastern wall of this room leads to an L-shaped hallway with a small bathroom. To the south is a second bathroom. On the east side of the hall, is a large rectangular room comprising nearly the entire eastern half of this segment. A narrow passage in the northeast corner of the room forms the connection with the casemates to the north. To the south of this room are three smaller rooms arranged along the south wall of the structure.

The third tier is divided into 13 self-contained rooms, each opening onto the walkway.

2. Stairways: On the north and south, spiral stone stairways enclosed by brick towers open onto each tier of the structure and also onto the parapet. A broad U-type steel stairway with concrete treads and metal pipe railing is located on the west wall in a brick structure.

3. Flooring: Casemate floors on the second and third tiers are reinforced concrete. Remaining floors are covered with linoleum tile, quarry tile or carpet. Walkway floors are concrete.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Casemate walls on the first and second tiers are red sandstone. Most have been painted. Typical partition walls painted brick. Ceilings are reinforced concrete in some cases covered with acoustical tile. Third tier walls are generally painted sandstone. The vaulted ceilings are painted brick. Walkway ceilings and exterior walls are reinforced concrete. Second story walls in the rectangular segment are typically plaster. Ceilings are concrete or acoustical tile.

5. Openings:

   a. Doorways and doors: Doors are typically prison type metal grille.

   b. Windows: Typical windows are multipaned, steel and glazed metal glass semi-security sash.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The Castle is well sited on the northwest corner of the Island and is visible from the water on both the north and west. A two-story barracks building (#513) and a wooden fence obscure the view of the Castle from the south. The structure is encircled on the west and north by Carder Road and on the east by Hay Road. The entrance to the Castle is on line with Andes Road.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural Drawings:

The following drawings located in Record Group 77, Maps and Plans of the Office of the Chief of Engineers, at the Cartographic and Architectural Branch of the National Archives illustrate the configuration and the appearance of Castle Williams:

Map of the Islands and Military Points in the Harbor of New York, their Distances and Situations and Profiles through Governors, Bedloes and Ellis Island, and the Works thereon. Joseph Mangin. 1813. Fortification File, Fort Columbus, Drawer 36, sheet 20. An early view showing a cross-section of the Castle.

A rough plan of Castle Williams in the Harbour of New York. 1824. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheet 5.

Section on Castle Williams, Sketch Exhibiting the Alterations Alluded to in the Report of the Repairs Required at Fort Columbus, New York. 1830. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheet 6. Alterations were repairs to the structure.

Plan of a Casemate, 1st Tier of Guns. 1839. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheet 11.

Interior Elevation of Embrasure. 1839. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37 sheet 12.

Plan of a Casemate, 2nd Tier of Guns. 1839. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheet 13.

Profile of Casemate, 1st and 2nd Tier of Guns. 1839. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheet 14.

Plans and Details of Castle Williams. Henry Waller. 1839. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheet 16.

Horizontal Section Through 2nd Tier of Gun Embrasures and 3rd Story. Henry Waller. 1839. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheet 17.

Details of Castle Williams. Henry Waller. 1839. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheet 18.

Plan of Upper Tier of Castle Williams Showing the Position of the Barbette Guns, and the Proposed Increase of the Thickness of the Parapet. 1841. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheet 24. Alteration was not made at the time.

Sketch of Proposed Plan of the Thickening and Raising the Parapet of Castle Williams. 1859. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 37, sheet 48. These changes were completed at least by the end of the century.

Sketch Showing Its Present Armament, December 12, 1843. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 250, sheet 2-5.

Sketch of Showing Armament, April 1, 1892. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 250, sheet 2-7.

Armament Sketch Drawn Under the Direction of Major H. M. Adams, December 31, 1896. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 250, sheet 2-10.

Armament Sketch Drawn Under the Direction of Major H. M. Adams, December 31, 1897. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 250, sheet 2-12.

Armament Sketch Drawn Under the Direction of Major H. M. Adams, December 31, 1898. Fortification File, Castle Williams, Drawer 250, sheet 2-14.

The following plans are on file at the Coast Guard Facilities Engineering Division on Governors Island. They are arranged chronologically according to periods of alterations made to the Castle.

Second Tier Plan showing the location of proposed New Water Closets in Cells and Basins in the Barber Shop. April 1916.

Plan of Prison Building #5, 2nd Tier. April 1916.

Drawings from 1931-1932 include the proposed location of new water lines, floor and roof reinforcement, plans of solitary confinement cells and grating on second and third tier cells. The new steel structural system is also included in these drawings.

Plans from the late 1930s are for electrical, plumbing and heating systems.

Drawings of the 1947 modifications to the Castle include floor plans, plumbing, electrical and heating plans, and details of reinforced concrete and security systems.

B. Early Views

Castle Williams (view from the southeast), ca. 1895-ca. 1904. 92-F-15-3, Record Group 92, Records of the Office of Quartermaster General, Still Picture Branch, National Archives.

C. Bibliography

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

Williams, Jonathan. "Draft of a Report to the Secretary of War Relative to the Progress and Present State of the Fortifications in the Harbor of New York." November 1808. Williams, J., Mss. Williams 1808 report gives a detailed description of construction through the first tier.

General Joseph Totten to Honorable E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War, March 12, 1862. Box 144, Castle Williams. Notes that the Castle was nearly ready for imprisonment of captured Confederate troops.

Proceedings of a Board of Officers convened on the first day of April Eighteen hundred and thirty-nine at Governors Island. Record Group 77, Office of the Quartermaster General, Consolidated correspondence File, 1794-1915, Box 191, Fort Columbus, Navy and Old Army Branch, National Archives. Casemates reported to be in poor condition due to leaks.

2. Secondary Sources

U.S. Surgeon General's Office. Governors Island, Record of Medical History of the Post. Washington, D.C. Medical Department, U S. Army, May 14, 1868. 1868 Surgeon General uses a physical description of interior.

_____ Circular No. 4, Report on Barrack and Hospitals With Descriptions of Military Posts. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1870. Gives a brief description and uses.

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New York Times, April 4, 1897. Outlines the Castle's function as a prison.

Pitkin, Thomas M., editor. Supplementary Material Relating to the Construction of West Battery-Castle Clinton, From the Jonathan Williams Papers, Lilly Library, Indiana University. New York: Statue of Liberty National Monument, April 1963. This source contains material related to the construction of Castle Williams which was being erected at the same time as Castle Clinton.

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Smith, Edmund Banks. Governor's Island: Its Military History Under Three Flags, 1637-1913. New York: Edmund Banks Smith, 1913.

_____. Governor's Island: Its Military History Under Three Flags, 1637-1922. New York: Valentines Manual Inc., 1923.

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places nomination form, "Castle Williams/The Tower," Governors Island, New York. September 3, 1971.

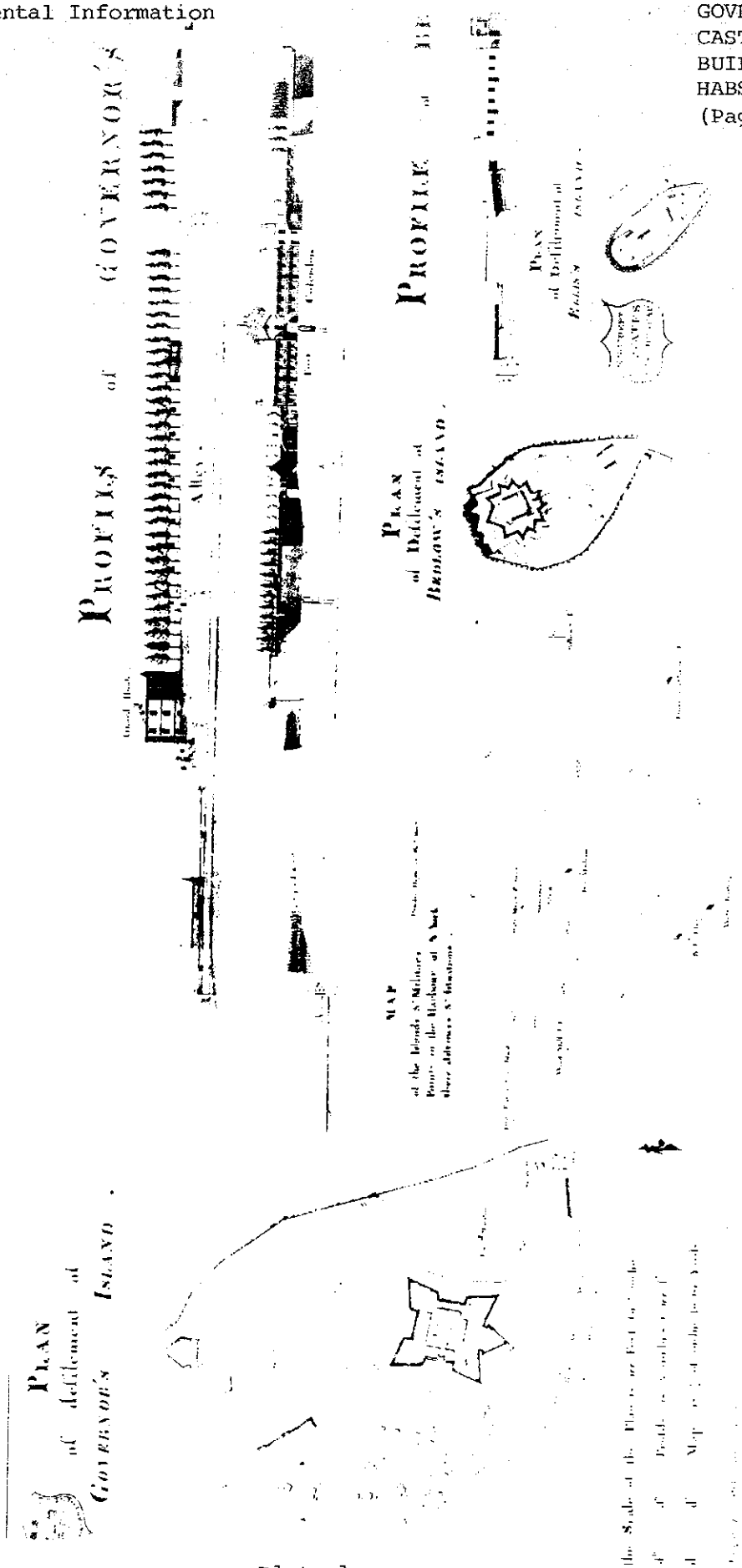

Plate 1
Photocopy of Map of Governors Island, New York
National Archives, Architectural and Cartographic Branch
Record Group 77-Fortifications File, Drawer 36, sheet 20
Profiles of Governors Island, Bedlow's Island and Ellis Island
Drawn by Joseph L. Mangin, June 1813

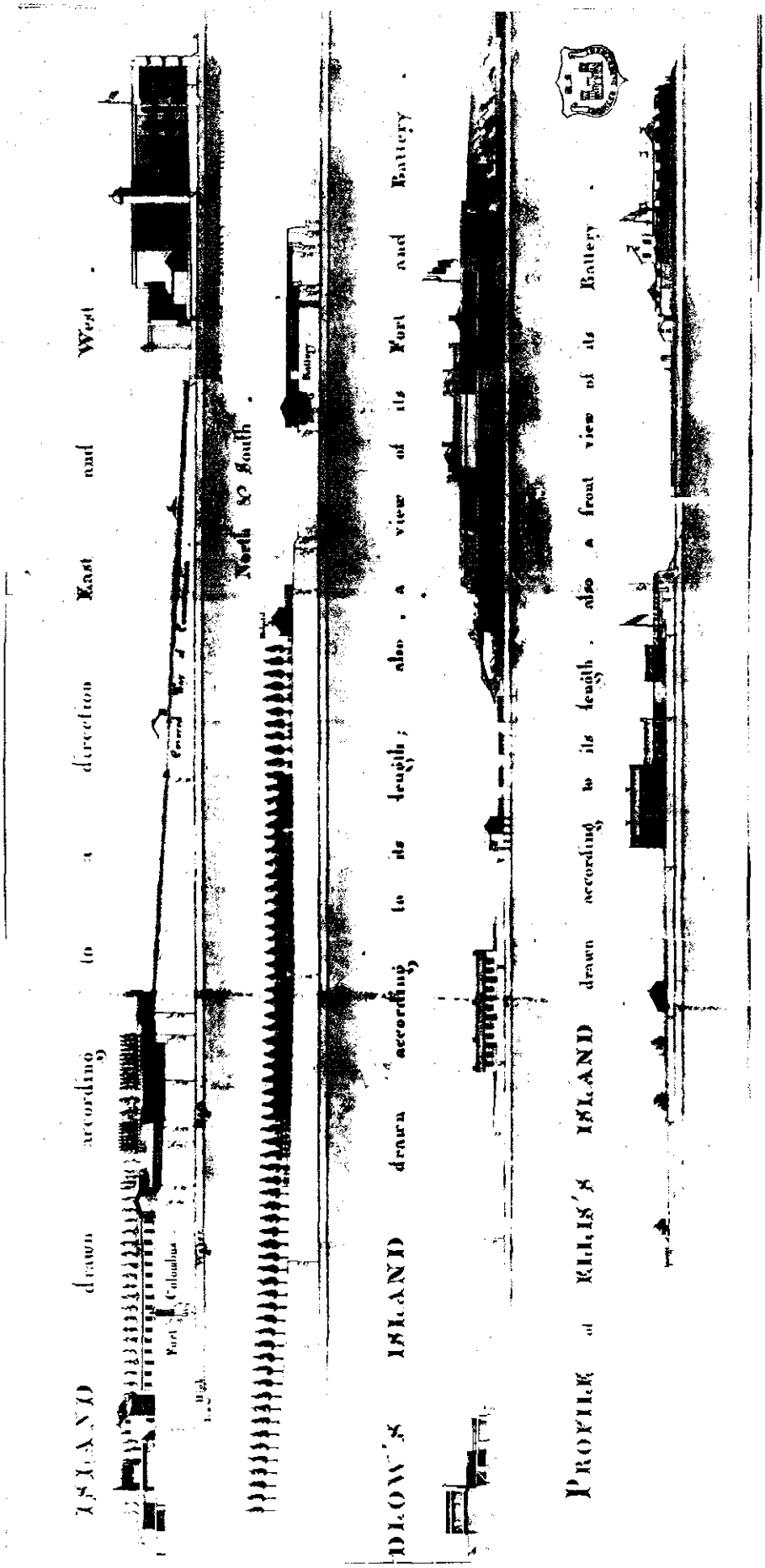

Plate 2

Photocopy of Map of Governors Island, New York
National Archives, Architectural and Cartographic Branch
Record Group 77-Fortifications File, Drawer 36, sheet 20
Profiles of Governors Island, Bedlow's Island and Ellis Island
Drawn by Joseph L. Mangin, June 1813

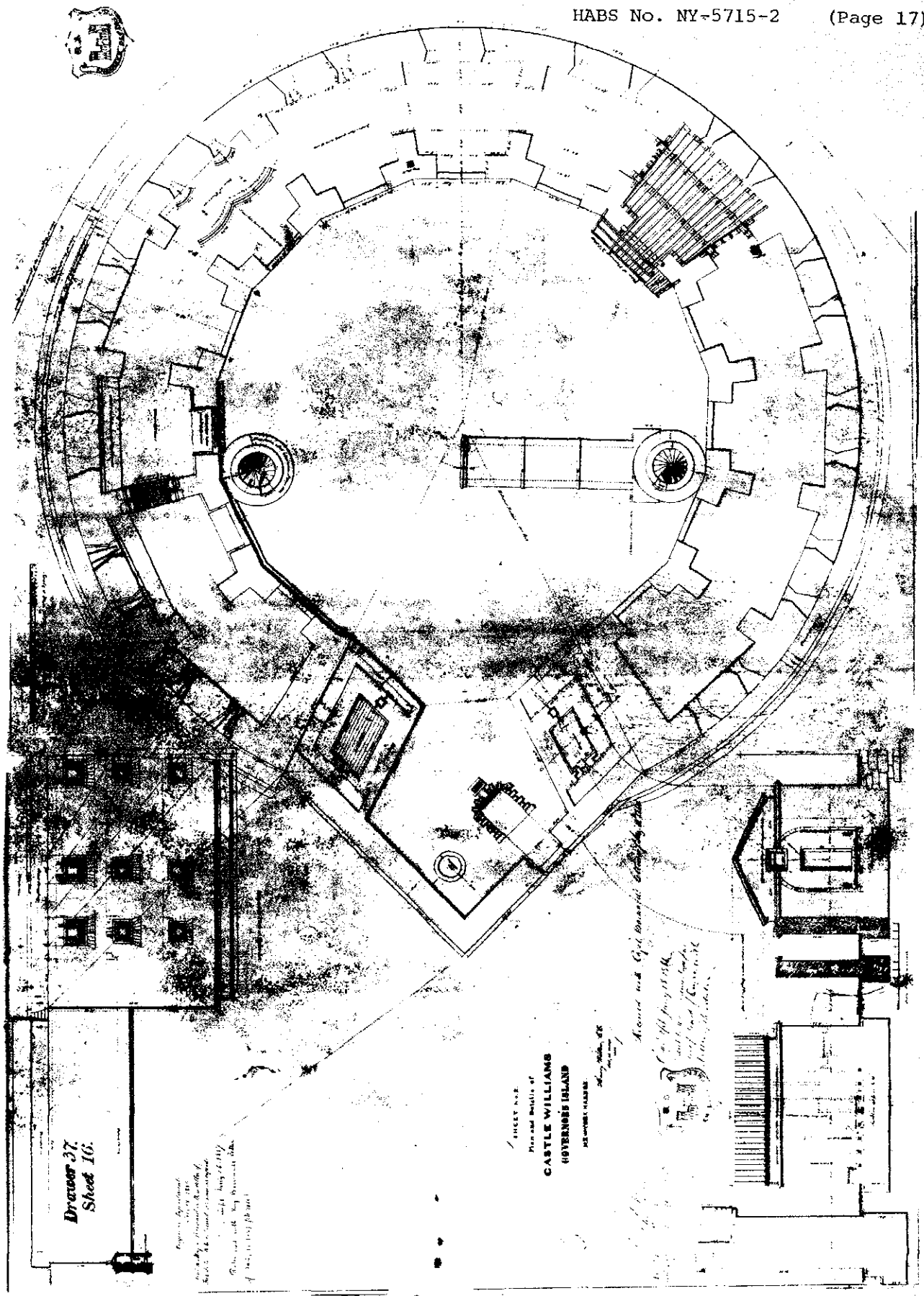

Plate 3

Photocopy of Drawing of Building #501
National Archives, Architecture and Cartographic Branch
Record Group 77-Fortifications File, Drawer 37, sheet 16
Plan and Details of Castle Williams, Governors Island

Drawn by Henry Waller, 1839

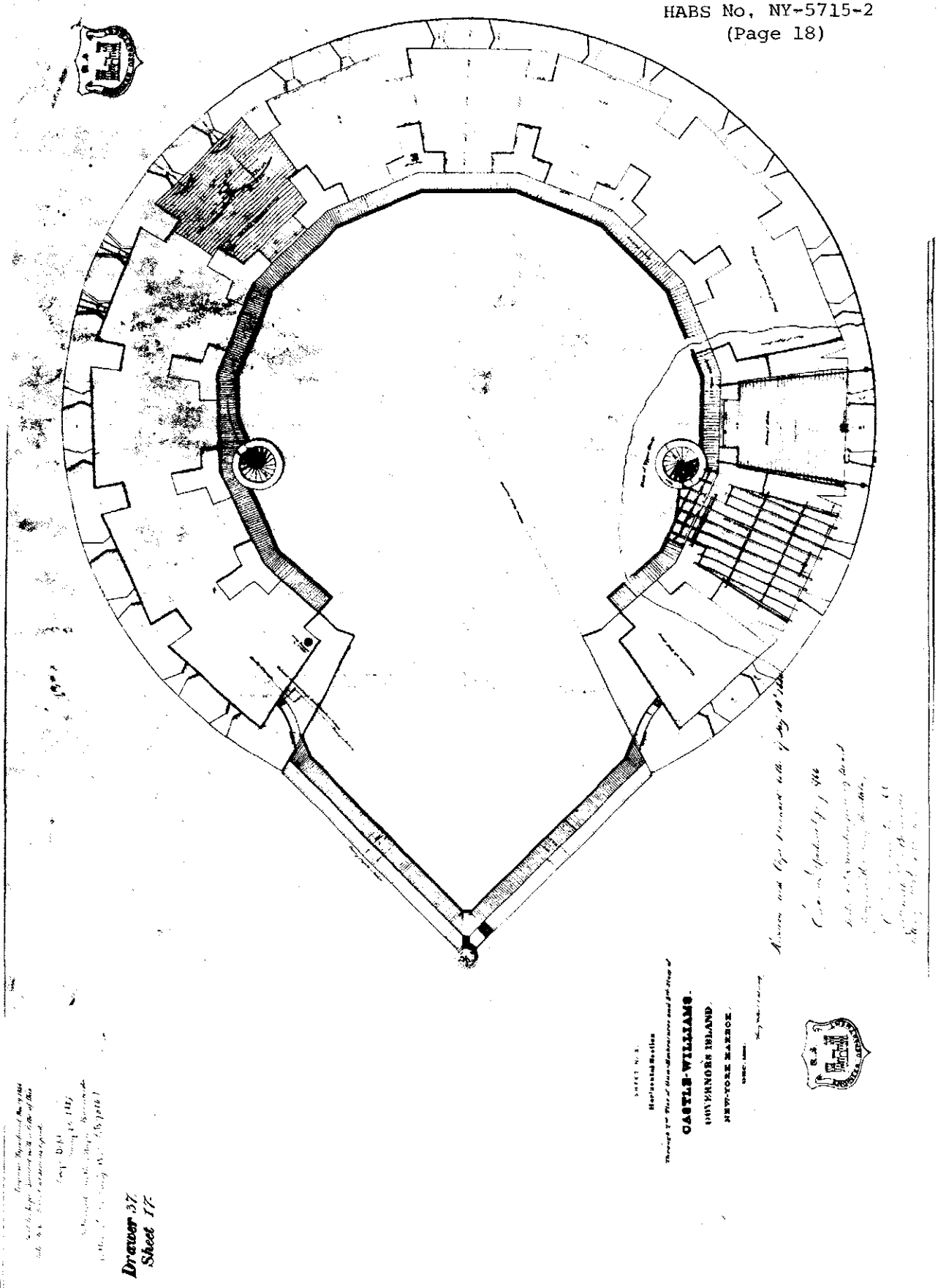

Plate 4

Photocopy of Drawing of Building #501
National Archives, Architecture and Cartographic Branch
Record Group 77-Fortification Files, Drawer 37, sheet 17
Horizontal Cross Section of Second Tier of Gun-Embrasures
and Third Story of Castle Williams
Drawn by Henry Waller, December 1859

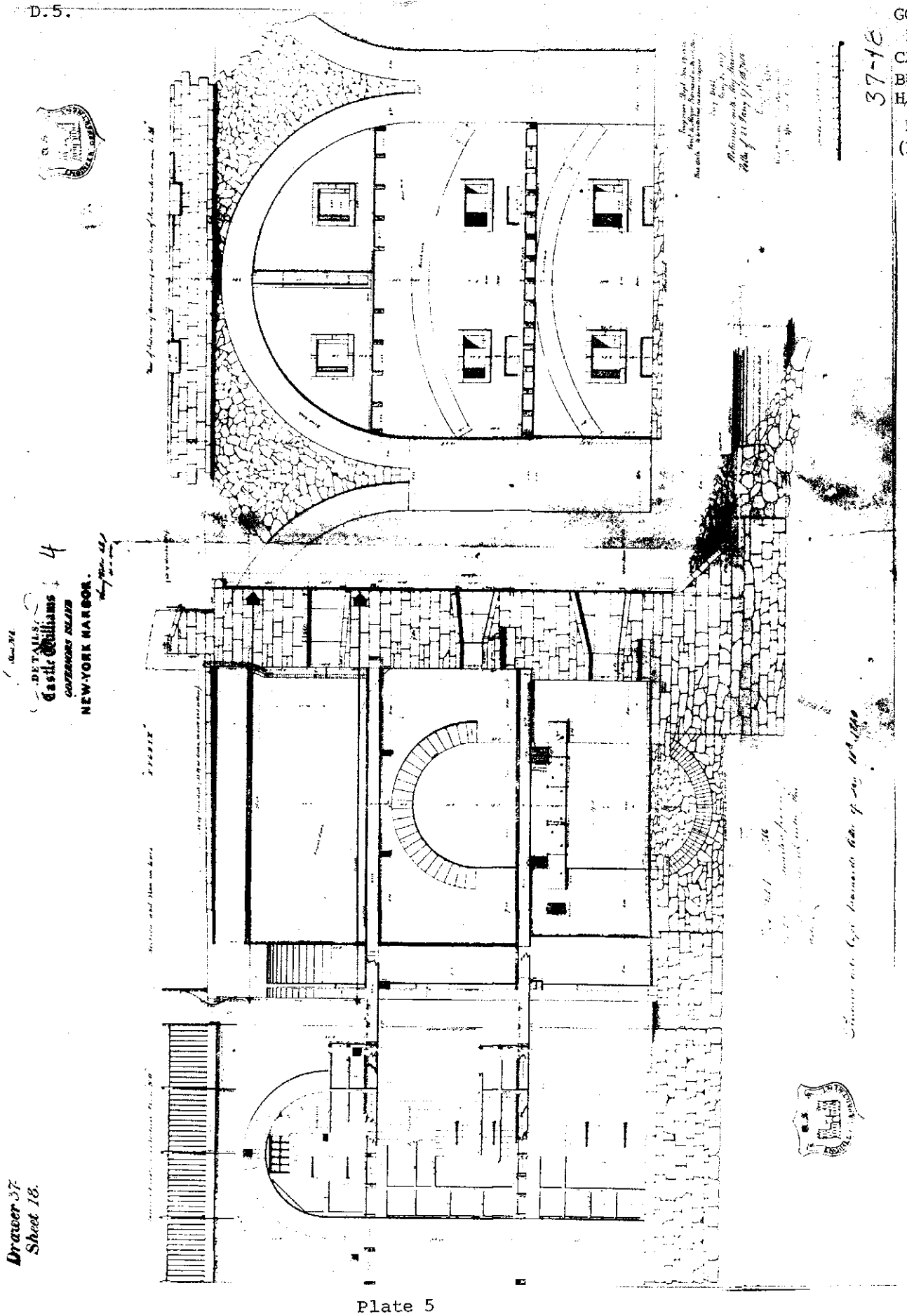

Plate 5
Photocopy of Drawing of Building #501
National Archives, Architecture and Cartographic Branch
Record Group 77-Fortifications File, Drawer 37, sheet 18
Details of Castle Williams, Governors Island
Drawn by Henry Waller, January 1840

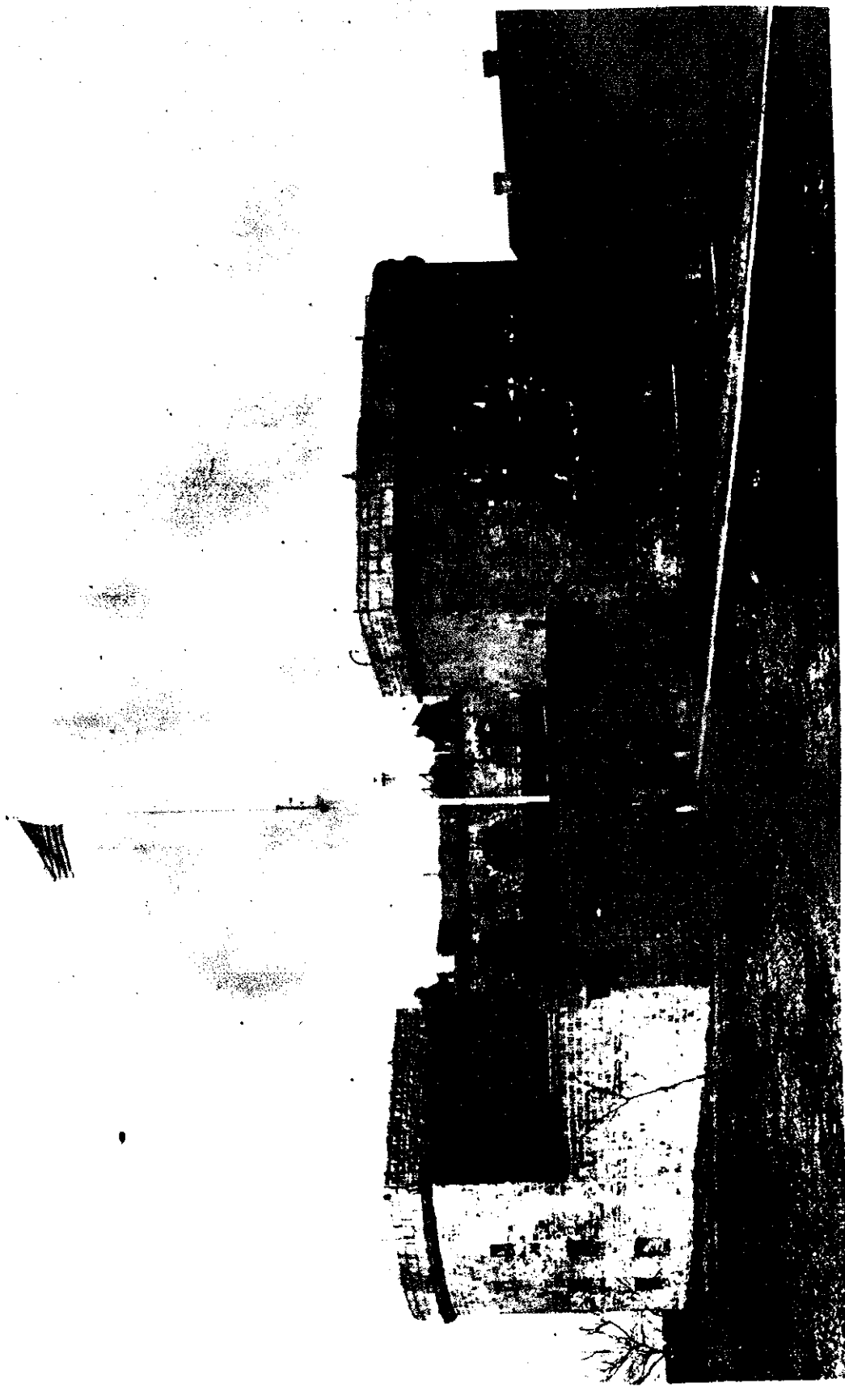

Plate 6

Reprint of Photograph of Building #501
National Archives, Army and Old Navy Branch
Record Group 92-F-15-3
View of Southeastern Corner of Castle Williams
Unknown Photographer, ca. 1895-1904

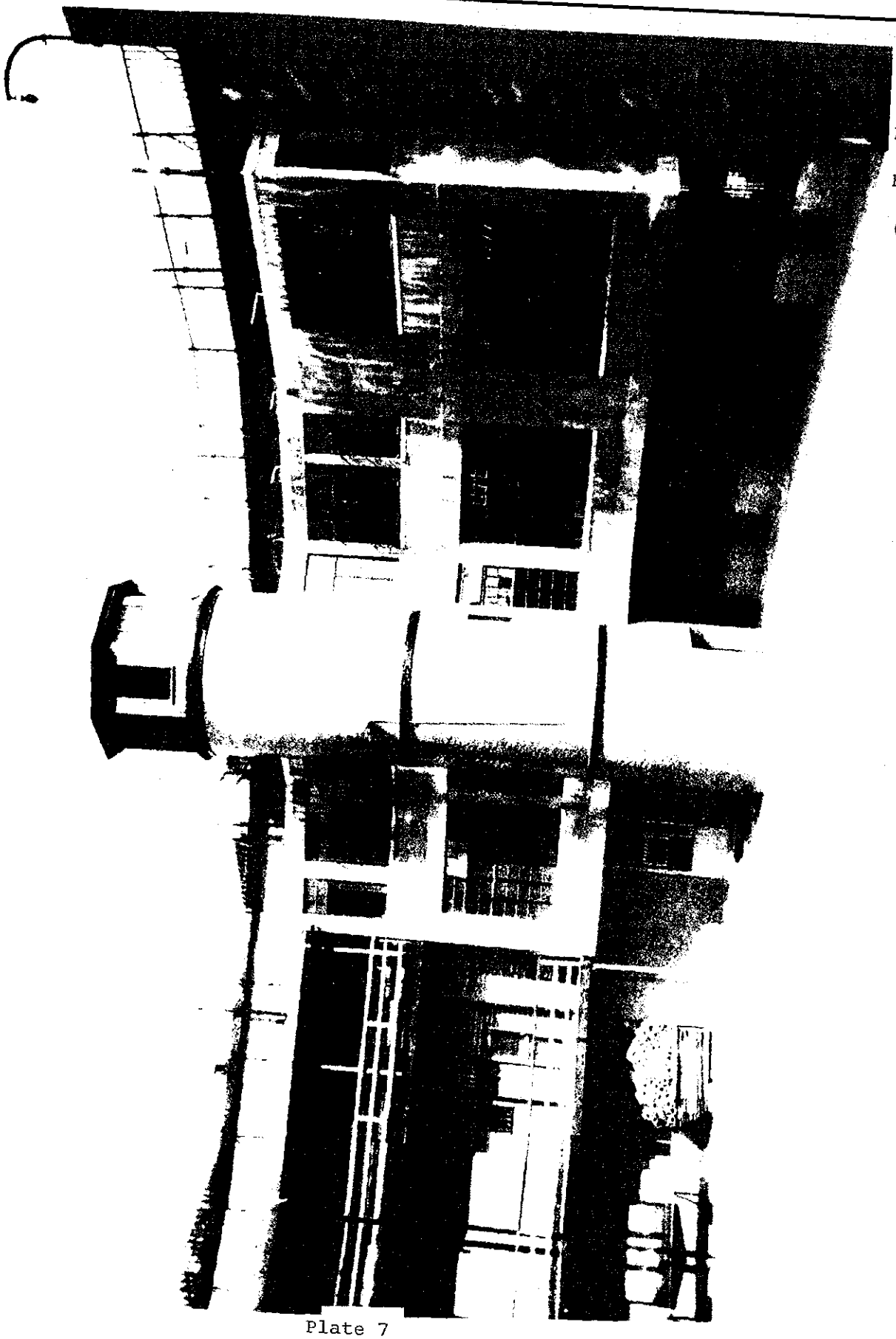

Plate 7

Reprint of Photograph of Building #501
U.S. Coast Guard Support Center
Special Services Office, Governors Island, N.Y.
View of Courtyard
Unknown Photographer, ca. 1930

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) at the request of the United States Coast Guard, Third Coast Guard District, Governors Island, New York, who funded the project. The field work was accomplished during the summers of 1982 and 1983. The historic structures inventory, a National Historic Landmark District nomination and the documentation of five properties were completed in 1984. A three-volume report and inventory cards containing the results of the historic structures inventory have been transmitted to the Library of Congress as field records under HABS No. NY-5715. The National Historic Landmark District nomination was submitted and acted upon favorably by the National Park System Advisory Board in October of 1984.

Sally Kress Tompkins, Deputy Chief of HABS/HAER, was project manager. John Burns, AIA and S. Allen Chambers both of the HABS staff provided technical assistance and review; Jet Lowe, HAER staff photographer, completed the large format photography; Blanche Higgins, historian, and David Broderson of Cornell University completed the historic structures inventory during the summer of 1982; Barbara Hightower, historian, developed the HABS documentation during the summer of 1983; Karin Madison of the HABS/HAER staff assisted in the production of the report and provided photographic control. Paige George of the University of Virginia did the Governors Island map and title sheet. Jay Silberman, Environmental Specialist, District Planning Office, Third Coast Guard District, Governors Island, served as manager and coordinator of the project for the U.S. Coast Guard.